

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Duncan et al.

Serial No. :

Art Unit:

Filed : March 12, 2004

Examiner:

For : IN-LINE LEAK DETECTOR

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, information relating to the above-identified application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in this statement is not to be construed as an admission that this information is material as that term is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist.

☒ In accordance with §1.97(b), since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months of the filing date of the above-identified national application (other than a continued prosecution application under

\$1.53(d)), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of the above identified application as set forth in \$1.491, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under \$1.114, no additional fee is required.

☐ In accordance with \$1.129(a), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in connection with ☐ the first or ☐ second After Final Submission, therefore:

- ☐ Statement in Accordance with \$1.97(e) (attached); or
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/ / the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in \$1.17(p).

☐ In accordance with \$1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth in \$1.97(b) above but before the mailing date of either a Final Action under \$1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under \$1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution and that it is accompanied by one of:

- ☐ Statement in Accordance with \$1.97(e) (attached); or
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/ / the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in \$1.17(p).

☐ In accordance with \$1.97(d), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either a Final Action under \$1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under \$1.311 but before the payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. Included are: Statement in

Accordance with \$1.97(e) as set forth below and the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in \$1.17(p).

☐ Copies of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith.

☐ Copies of references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith EXCEPT THAT:

☐ In view of the voluminous nature of references [list as appropriate], and the likelihood that these references are available to the Examiner, copies are not enclosed herewith.

☐ If any of the foregoing publications are not available to the Examiner, Applicant will endeavor to supply copies at the Examiner's request.

☒ Copies of only foreign patent documents and non-patent literature are enclosed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2). (The U.S. patents and each U.S. patent application publication listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are not enclosed because this U.S. patent application was filed after June 30, 2003 or this international application has entered the national stage under 35 USC §371 after June 30, 2003 (see USPTO waiver of requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i)).

☒ There are no listed references which are not in the English language.

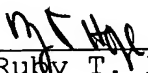
☐ The relevance of those listed references which are not in the English language is as follows:

☐ Attached are copies of search report(s) from corresponding patent application(s), which are listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.

☐ Attached are the following non-published pending patent applications which may be deemed relevant, which are listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/VTN-5019/RTH. This form is submitted in triplicate.

Respectfully submitted,



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DATED: March 15, 2004

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

Application Number	
Filing Date	March 12, 2004
First Named Inventor	David F. Duncan
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	VTN-5019

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		4,213,329		Raymond et al.	07/22/1980	
		4,478,070		Clifford et al.	10/23/1984	
		4,663,964		Croce	05/12/1987	
		4,891,820		Martinez	09/08/1987	
		4,771,630		Croce et al.	09/20/1988	
		5,054,610		Ajello	10/08/1991	
		5,337,888		Morrison	08/16/1994	
		5,361,626		Colligan et al.	11/08/1994	
		5,365,774		Hoflacher	11/22/1994	
		5,375,698		Ewart et al.	12/27/1994	
		5,409,104		Lovell	04/25/1995	
		5,412,372		Parkhurst et al.	05/02/1995	
		5,467,868		Abrams et al.	11/21/1995	
		5,515,964		Bauman	05/14/1996	
		5,555,504		Lepper et al.	09/10/1996	
		5,573,108		Hamilton et al.	11/12/1996	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				
		EP	0 445 002	A2	L'AIR LIQUIDE	09/04/1991		
		EP	0 329 960	A2	Westinghouse Electric	08/30/1989		

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2 of 2

Application Number**Filing Date**

March 12, 2004

First Named Inventor

David F. Duncan

Group Art Unit**Examiner Name****Attorney Docket Number**

VTN-5019

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		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		5,609,246		Borghorst et al.	03/11/1997	
		5,673,533		Wang et al.	10/07/1997	
		5,695,049		Bauman	12/09/1997	
		5,697,495		Abrams et al.	12/16/1997	
		5,704,468		Lust et al.	01/06/1998	
		5,711,416		Bauman	01/27/1998	
		5,722,536		Pierce et al.	03/03/1998	
		5,823,327		Wu et al.	10/20/1998	
		5,907,093		Lehmann	05/25/1999	
		5,983,608		Wu et al.	11/16/1999	
		6,029,808		Peck et al.	02/29/2000	
		6,041,646		Fenlon	03/28/2000	
		6,044,966		Haase	04/04/2000	
		6,202,476	B1	Fenlon	03/20/2001	
		6,330,823	B1	Raymond	12/18/2001	
		6,401,915	B1	Faxe	06/11/2002	
		6,470,733	B1	Barr	10/29/2002	
		2001/0010494	A1	Herbert	08/02/2001	
		2002/0000117	A1	McCoy et al.	01/03/2002	
		2003/0029730	A1	Lee et al.	02/13/2003	

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